

Jacob Blasdel, a pioneer to the Indiana Territory, was born April 8, 1754 in Amesbury, MA, the seventh of ten children to **Enoch & Mary (Satterlee) Blaisdell**. He became a Lieutenant after three enlistments from New Hampshire during the Revolutionary War and was paid a land Warrant by the U.S. government.

He married **Ruth Morse** March 26, 1778, and they had nine children: **Enoch, Jacob, Nabby, Polly, Ruth, Jonathan, Sally (Sarah), Elijah** and **Betsey**. He was an ironworker and a blacksmith in Tamworth, Eaton and Burton, NH. He represented Tamworth in the Legislature of New Hampshire.

He sold upwards of 1,000 acres of land in New Hampshire before heading west in 1799 by horse, oxen, and foot to the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers, where the family with possessions floated downstream by flat boat to Columbia, Hamilton County, OH, near the Great Miami River and stayed five years. Polly, age 15 and a twin, died in 1800.

At age 51 in 1804 he bought Section 28 and $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 29 in township 6 of Range 1 west, in the Indiana Territory, three miles from Ohio. With courage and self-reliance he began to clear the land with an axe and rifle. He named the place Cambridge [Pella today] and established a 20' x 24' Academy, believed to be the first college in the Indiana Territory.

On Tanners Creek he built and operated a grist mill and a saw mill. He established the Cambridge Cemetery in 1821 and was buried there after his death in 1831 with all four of his sons and two of his five daughters: Enoch, Jacob, Jr., Jonathan, Elijah, Nabby and Sally. He was survived by eight children and 45 grand-children at the time of his death.

This cemetery was declared in 2003 an Historic Cemetery among Indiana's Cemetery and Burial Grounds Registry of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. The cemetery is maintained by members of the Lt. Jacob Blasdel Family Association.